Approved For Release 2005/04/21 : CIA-RDP78S01932A000100010118-7

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ITEM NO: 5 DATE: 26 JAN 74

SUBJECT: BELGIUM--DECISION MSOON ON ELECTIONS OR NEW COALITION

KING BAUDOUIN IS EXPECTED TO DELAY NO LONGER THAN EARLY NEXT

WEEK A DECISION TO TRY TO FORM A NEW COALITION OR TO PAVE THE

WAY FOR NEW ELECTIONS BY DISSOLVING PARLIAMENT. BAUDOUIN HAS

AGONIZED OVER THIS CHOICE SINCE THE LEBURTON COALITION FELL ON

JANUARY 39 BECAUSE THE FLEMISE WING OF THE POWERFUL SOCIAL CHRISTIAN

PARTY IS OPPOSED TO DISSOLVING THE PRESENT PARLIAMENT. BAUDOUIN

WILL FIND FURTHER DELAY EMBARRASSING BECAUSE EVEN PROCRASTINATION

IS SEEN AS A PARTISAN STEP.

THE WALLOON NATIONALIST GROUPS, MEANWHILE, ARE ANTICIPATING

NEW ELECTIONS WITH ZEST. ALONG WITH THEIR FLEMISH COUNTERPARTS,

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CLASSIFICATION

REPRODUCTION BY OTHER THAN THE ISSUING OFFICE IS PROHIBITED

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